



Love So Amazing
at
Christmas



Lu. 2:13-15

“Love So Amazing For our Future – The Inspiration”

Lu. 2:13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, **Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.**



Last Sunday, we began a Christmas series entitled, “LOVE SO AMAZING AT CHRISTMAS” and we saw God’s amazing love through the INCARNATION. The *Incarnation* is one of the greatest doctrines in the Word of God.

This week, we consider how “*Love So Amazing*” affects our future, and is our INSPIRATION. When I look at “the BIG PICTURE,” I see how everything from Genesis to Revelation is the handiwork of God, and how His plan for us at this present hour can be a tool of inspiration for us to implement in our lifetime, for His glory.

❖ There are many factors to consider regarding Jesus' birth:

- The prophecy of the virgin birth, Isa. 7:14;
- The prophecy of Bethlehem, Mic. 5:2;
- The prophecy and genealogical connection to David, 2 Sam. 7:12-13, Isa. 9:7;
- The easily overlooked presentation of the importance of “family.”

Simeon and Anna, in Luke 2, were elderly spiritual examples waiting for baby Jesus in the Temple. But God did not choose them to be the family for Jesus – He chose a carpenter and teenage girl to be the parental examples for His Son. As we consider “*Love So Amazing For our Future*” may it be a wonderful “*Inspiration*” to strengthen our respect and resolve to build stronger families.

I. LOVE SO AMAZING FOR OUR EARTHLY FUTURE

A. God's Love for the Family was Shown before Bethlehem in the Garden

❖ God made earth for man's provisions.

Gen. 2:8 And **the LORD God planted a garden** eastward in Eden; and **there he put the man whom he had formed.**

9 And out of the ground **made the LORD God to grow every tree** that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

❖ God made man for His glory.

Isa. 43:7 *Even* every one that is called by my name: for **I have created him for my glory**, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

- ❖ God made one woman for one man, very simply calling them “male and female.”
- ❖ God made **the family** structure for earth’s future.
- ❖ God designed the family as His first organizational model.
- ❖ Family relationships, good or bad, are the foundational training centers for the initial experiences a person encounters in life.

❖ God established the husband as the leader.

Gen. 3:16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and **thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.**

❖ God established the wife as the completer.

Gen. 2:18 And the LORD God said, *It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.*

❖ God commanded commitment to each other.

Gen. 2:24 Therefore shall a man **leave his father and his mother**, and shall **cleave** unto his wife: and **they shall be one** flesh.

1 Cor. 7:4 The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.

❖ God designed the family unit to be a testimony of spiritual principles:

- Leadership of, and respect for, the Father:
- The responsibility of parental teaching:

Deut. 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:

5 And **thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.**

6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

7 And **thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children**, and shalt talk of them when thou **sittest in thine house**, and when thou **walkest by the way**, and when thou **liest down**, and when thou **risest up**.

8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of **thy house**, and on thy gates.

- The submissive attitude in obedience to the parental leadership is preparation to a submissive attitude in obedience the Lord.

Eph. 6:1 Children, **obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.**

2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is **the first commandment with promise;**)

3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but **bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.**

- The future direction of children is dependent upon parental leadership.

Prov. 22:6 **Train up a child in the way he should go:** and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

B. God's Love for the Family was Shown in Bethlehem as a Guide

- ❖ Christ was born in Bethlehem – a guide for us to believe His Word.
- ❖ Christ was born with “legitimate” parents – a guide to build a family.
- ❖ Christ was born in a humble place – a guide for our focus, NOT upon materialism.
- ❖ Christ was born among common people – a guide for our humility.

❖ Christ was in Bethlehem to help us see how God views our earth.

- God sees beyond the glitz and glitter of man's delusion.
- God sees the emptiness of the soul of mankind.
- God sees His plan, through His provision, and mankind's only answer.

1 Tim. 2:5 For *there is* one God, and **one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;**

Jn. 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am** the way, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

II. LOVE SO AMAZING FOR OUR ETERNAL FUTURE

A. Through Bethlehem we see God's Solution for Mankind's Problem

Lu. 19:10 For the Son of man is come **to seek and to save** that which was lost.

1 Tim. 1:15 This *is* a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that **Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners**; of whom I am chief.

Rom. 3:23 For **all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God;

B. Through Bethlehem we see God's Satisfaction for Mankind's Present

Rom. 8:35 **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ...

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, **shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Jn. 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: **I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.**

C. Through Bethlehem we see God's Stipulation for Mankind's Promise

Jn. 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; **that where I am, there ye may be also.**

Summary

- ❖ The account of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, *the House of Bread*, should be an inspiration to us to implement spiritual principles in our daily life, and to follow the model established by God regarding the value of family.
- ❖ A husband and wife, joined in focusing upon the child's welfare, together, is more important than worldly luxuries.
- ❖ Family is the source for spiritual heritage in the present and for the future.

Conclusion

Lu. 2:14 Glory to God in the highest, and **on earth peace**, good will toward men.

Jn. 14:27 Peace I leave with you, **my peace I give unto you**: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. **Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**

Jn. 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that **in me ye might have peace**. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Heb. 13:5 *Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, **I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.***